

Message Text

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73

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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R 232110Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2627

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: TRADE REFORM ACT

1. AMBASSADOR GAVE FONSEC GOMEZ BERGES YESTERDAY COPIES OF THE TRADE REFORM ACT (WHICH HE HAD NOT RECEIVED FROM HIS AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON) AND PERTINENT EXCERPTS FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGER'S JAN 15 SPEECH. AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED THAT USG INTENDED TO LIBERALIZE TERMS OF TRADE AND THAT CRITICISM FROM SAME LA QUARTERS WAS PREMATURE, AN OVER-REACTION AND IN LARGE MEASURE UNFOUNDED. HE CONTINUED THAT THERE WAS NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE DOMREP WOULD BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THE LAW AND ASSUMED THAT THE GODR DID NOT INTEND TO JOIN IN THSO CRITICISM. IN THAT REGARD, AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT PRESIDENT BALAGUER HAD TURNED ASIDE A REPORTER'S QUESTION CONCERNING GODR POSITION ON TRADE REFORM ACT BY SAYING THAT MATTER WAS UNDER STUDY.

2. IN RESPONSE TO LISTIN DIARIO REPORTER'S QUESTION YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AT AIRPORT ON THIS SUBJECT, AMBASSADOR MADE FOLLOWING POINTS: (1) NOTEWORTHY THAT US AT TIME OF ECONOMIC RECESSION HAD TAKEN STEPS TO LIBERALIZE TRADE RATHER THAN ADOPT PROTECTIONIST
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MEASURES; (2) THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WOULD NOT BE ADVERSELY

AFFECTED; AND (3) CRITICISM OF THE LAW WAS FOR THE MOST PART
PREMATURE AND UNWARRANTED. INTERVIEW WAS GIVEN MODERATE FRONT-
PAGE TREATMENT IN THIS MORNING'S LISTIN.
HURWITCH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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